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Latest News from Kent County Council Public Protection.

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15 May 2020

[Want to report a doorstep criminal](#)

Doorstep criminals selling televisions

Men in a white van are selling smart TVs door to door across Kent. These TVs are broken! If you have seen these men in your area, or if you have bought one of these TVs, please report now to Citizens Advice consumer helpline as soon as possible. Phone: 0808 223 1133 or [report online](#).



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- ✓ Do not open the door to strangers or allow uninvited callers into your home.
- ✓ Never give your bank details, bank cards or any personal information to anyone.
- ✓ Always ask to see I.D. of someone you don't know. Check their ID online or phone the company they claim to be from to verify it. You can politely ask them to wait outside whilst you do this.
- ✓ If someone knocks at your door, make sure they stay at least 6 feet / 2 metres away.
- ✓ If they do not leave when asked, call the Police on 101, if they are aggressive call 999.
- ✓ Report to Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133 or [report online](#).
- ⚠ Please warn family members, friends and neighbours.

Report it

"British Rail" tree cutting scam

Criminals have been reported in the Allington area claiming to be cutting down trees on behalf of "British Rail". Although this report is for the Maidstone area, these criminals can target anyone in Kent who lives near a railway line.



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- ✗ You are cold-called by men claiming to work for British Rail.
- ✗ They target properties that back on to the railway line.
- ✗ They say they have to cut down trees overhanging the railway line that are on your property.
- ✗ They claim British Rail pay them for this work but you must pay for them to remove the trees once cut down.
- ✗ They offer to drive you to the cashpoint machine to get the money.

What to do:

- ✓ Network Rail plan works in advance they would never cold call you or demand payment. You can contact them to verify any genuine work on 03457 11 41 41.
- ✓ If someone knocks at your door, make sure they stay at least 6 feet / 2 metres away.
- ✓ Do not open the door to strangers or allow uninvited callers into your home.
- ✓ If they do not leave when asked, call the Police on 101, if they are aggressive call 999.
- ✓ Report to Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133 or [report online](#).

Report it



Coronavirus/COVID-19

Scams and Guidance

Find out about how scammers may be trying to target you and your family during the Coronavirus pandemic. We can all be vulnerable to these criminals and the best way to protect yourself is to make sure you are aware. KCC Public protection have created a page that lists scams that are using the Pandemic to target you.

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Contact Details



For advice and to report issues to **KCC Trading Standards** contact [Citizens Advice consumer helpline](#) on **0808 223 1133**
[Consumer Advice scams action line](#) on **0808 250 5050**
Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

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